



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, March 11, 2019
6:00 PM
Clarendon School District 3, Board Room
1177 Atkinson St., Turbeville, SC

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Councilman Benton Blakely
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson
Councilman AC English
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Press in attendance: The Manning Times, Inna Kognita

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Willie Briggs	Jamie Welch	Charlotte Johnston
Jennifer Powell	Patricia Pringle	Ann English	Connie Dennis
Brad Gerfin	Erica Floyd	And other Clarendon County Residents	

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. Councilman Blakely led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

1 Approval of the Agenda

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the agenda for March 11, 2019.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on February 11, 2019.

3. Clarendon County Library Board Presentation

Mr. Jamie Welch, Vice President of the Library Board, gave Council an update on what the Library is doing. He stated that there are four points that he wanted to talk about:

1. Utilization – he stated that Utilization is flat. With the rapid increase in Technology, Funding is flat. Mr. Welch continued by asking Council to continue to add the \$565,000 to the budget that the library receives from the County yearly. He also asked Council to increase the Library appropriation by \$25,000.
2. Partnership and Program – Growing, he said the Library has a partnership with three Public Schools.
3. Evaluation – He stated that based on a survey that was done, the Library changed the hours of operation based on the Community needs assessment. Mr. Welch continued by stating that based on the survey, the Library rated 84% on good to excellent overall and 83% on good to excellent in customer service. The number one request from this survey was for meeting rooms and quiet studying places.
4. Marketing and Public Awareness – is a need that we need to address to move forward.

Mr. Welch concluded his presentation by thanking Mr. David Epperson for directing Training for the Library on last year. He thanked Ms. Charlotte Johnston, the Library Board, and the Library Staff for the excellent work that they do for the library.

Councilman Blakely asked how is the interest in the mobile library.

- Mr. Welch replied by stating that the people that use the Bookmobile, really use the Bookmobile, they check out lots of items and it is growing. He stated that they are trying to increase the presence by going to football games and Parades.
- Administrator Epperson stated that the Recreation Department games will begin soon and this would be a good idea for the mobile library to be available because a lot of children and parents would be at the ball fields, in Manning, Turbeville, and Barrineau.
- Councilman English stated that he really did appreciate everything that the Library is doing.

Chairman Stewart thanked Mr. Welch and the Library Board for all that they do.

4. Request from Clarendon County NAACP

Mr. Willie Briggs, President of the Clarendon Branch of NAACP, stated that he is requesting funding to help with expenses associated with the Briggs verses Elliot Cultural Event scheduled for May 18-19, 2019. He stated that they have groups traveling from Washington, DC and New York. He continued by stating that they asked Senator Tim Scott to be the speaker and asking Senator Kevin L. Johnson to introduce Senator Scott.

Mr. Briggs stated that Historic Liberty Hill AME Church would be providing a bus tour of the historic area in Clarendon County.

- Chairman Stewart stated that we could use Hospitality Fund on Promotion Items like flyers and advertisement.
- Administrator Epperson stated that Hospitality Funds could be used for tourism event that will help bring people into town.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to give the Clarendon County NAACP \$2,000 toward the promotional items needed for the Briggs verses Elliot Cultural Event to be held on May 18-19, 2019.

5. Mutual Aid Agreement

Administrator Epperson presented Council with a Mutual Aid Agreement between Clarendon County and the City of Myrtle Beach Police Department. He stated that this is an agreement that must be approved annually and he recommends that Council approve it.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Clarendon County and the City of Myrtle Beach Police Department.

6. Ordinance 2019-01

Ms. Maria Rose, Planning Director, presented Council with Ordinance 2019-01 – An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County South Carolina to Amend the County's Official Zoning Map Designation for Tax Map Parcel #185-00-03-003-00; From Performance Zone (PZ) to Agriculture II (AGII) and Providing an Effective Date.

Ms. Rose continued by stating that the owner wants to put a Solar Farm on this property, which is about 20 to 25 acres, across from the recycling center on the June Burn Road. She concluded by stating that the adjacent property owner does not have any objection to the Solar Farm.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2019-01, An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County South Carolina to Amend the County's Official Zoning Map Designation for Tax Map Parcel #185-00-03-003-00; From Performance Zone (PZ) to Agriculture II (AGII) and Providing an Effective Date.

7. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating the following:

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$1,441,737 and Revenue figures were not available as of February 28, 2019.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had Operating Revenue of \$493,009 and Operating Expenses of \$357,952 as of February 28, 2019. He stated that after depreciation, Bond interest expense, Interest Income, and USDA Phase IB, the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility Loss of \$127,367.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$11,038 for the month ending February 28, 2019 and total Expenses were \$75,843. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of February 2019 after transfers with a deficit of \$14,805.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of February 2019 had a Cash Balance of \$2,181,579 of which \$1,060,924 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State Proviso Funds. He stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$1,120,655 as of the end of February 2019.

8. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council an update on the following projects:

- **USDA Phase II** – project is moving along well. Lines will be brought on the system in sections once they are tested and approved by DHEC.
- **Clarendon County Water/Sewer Phase 3A/B** - bids on phase 3-B came back significantly less than anticipated. We are working with Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) to approve plans so that work can begin soon.
- **County Recreation Dept.** new dugouts have been completed and the new covered batting cages are nearing completion, both at JC Britton Park. Maintenance work and other small improvements are being done at the County's other parks in preparation for usage during baseball/softball and warmer weather.
- **2020 Budget** – Departmental Budgets and agency requests are being received. First reading is scheduled for the April Council meeting.
- **Road Paving**
 1. 75% C-Funds (County Portion) – Work on Winwood Drive has begun with paving being completed this week. Work on Bethlehem is slated to begin once the George Harvin and Ram Bay Roads projects are completed. We anticipate work beginning on this within the next two weeks.
 2. 25% C-Funds (State Portion) – George Harvin Road and Ram Bay Road projects should be starting very soon.
- **Town of Paxville**

The town has recently discussed establishing Planning and Zoning within its town limits and have Inquired as to the County's willingness to assist with this. I along with Maria Rose, Clarendon County Planning Director, plan on meeting with Paxville representatives soon to discuss.

9. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that he would be attending the Santee Lynches Regional Council of Government Transportation Committee on March 15 in Sumter. He stated that County Council will be attending the Clarendon County Development Retreat on March 28, 2019, this would be held in the Council Chambers.

10. Executive Session – Personnel Matter – Auditor's Office.

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for a Personnel Matter within the Auditor's Office and he asked Ms. Patricia Pringle to come into Executive Session.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session for a Personnel Matter within the Auditor's Office.

The Executive Session began at 6:45 pm.

11. Open Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

On Motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to come out of Executive session and back into Open Session. The Executive Session ended at 7:41 pm.

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session, they discussed a Personnel Matter within the Auditor's Office and no action would be taken on this matter.

12. General Information

Chairman Stewart stated that we are very proud of Deputy Dillion Kirby, SRO, for saving a student from choking. He continued by stating that we are also very proud of Scott's Branch High School Girls for winning the State Championship. He continued by stating the Clarendon Hall boys won the State Championship and East Clarendon Girls won as well. Chairman Stewart concluded by stating that all three schools are from Clarendon County.

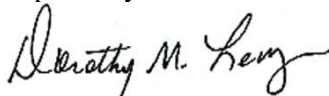
13. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

